



Book	Policy Manual
Section	0000 Bylaws
Title	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS
Code	po0169.1
Status	Active
Legal	R.C. 3313.20
Adopted	October 9, 1989
Last Revised	December 6, 2021

0169.1 - **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AT BOARD MEETINGS**

All meetings of the South-Western City Board of Education will be open to the public.

Members of the public who wish to speak at a Board meeting must sign the speaker form before the meeting begins. Public participation will be held at the first regular meeting of each month or as approved by Board resolution.

Members of the public shall register their intention to address the Board prior to the start of the first regular monthly meeting to participate in the public portion of the meeting relative to agenda items.

Members of the public shall register their intention to address the Board with the Superintendent's Office no later than noon on Monday prior to the first regular monthly meeting to participate in the public portion of the meeting relative to non-agenda items.

Only three (3) people per topic shall be allowed to speak. Each person addressing the Board will give his/her name and address and will be allotted five (5) minutes. The period of public participation and the number of people allowed to speak may be extended by a vote of the majority of the Board.

The presiding officer may:

- A. interrupt, warn, or terminate a participant's session when they make comments that are repetitive, obscene, and/or comments that constitute a true threat (i.e., statements meant to frighten or intimidate one (1) or more specified persons into believing that they will be seriously harmed by the speaker or someone acting at the speaker's behest);
- B. request any individual to leave the meeting when that person does not observe reasonable decorum;
- C. request the assistance of law enforcement officers in the removal of a disorderly person when that person's conduct interferes with the orderly progress of the meeting;
- D. call for a recess or an adjournment to another time when the lack of public decorum so interferes with the orderly conduct of the meeting as to warrant such action;
- E. waive these rules with the approval of the Board when necessary for the protection of privacy or the administration of the Board's business.

The agenda will be distributed to all those who attend Board meetings. Guidelines outlining public participation at Board meetings are included in the "Welcome To Your Board of Education Meeting" publication.

Agenda Preparation and Dissemination

The agenda for all meetings of the South-Western City Board of Education shall be prepared by the Superintendent in consultation with the Board President.

Items of business may be suggested by a Board member, staff member or citizen of the District. The agenda for the first regular meeting of each month will generally allow suitable time for the remarks of the public who wish to speak briefly before the Board.

The Board will follow the order of business set up by the agenda unless the order is altered by a majority vote of the members present. Items of business not on the agenda may be discussed and acted upon if a majority of the Board agrees to consider the item. The Board, however, may not revise Board policies, or adopt new ones, unless such action has been scheduled.

The agenda, together with supporting materials, will be distributed to Board members at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Board meeting to permit them to give items of business careful consideration. The agenda will also be made available to the press, representatives of community and staff groups, and to others upon request.

CROSS REF.:

0165.1, School Board Meetings

0165.4, Agenda Format

0165.4, Agenda Format

Revised 12/8/08

Revised 5/10/10

Revised 7/8/13

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